

Application No. 10/539,230
Technology Center 3616
Reply dated October 6, 2009
In Response to Office Action dated August 3, 2009

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached one (1) sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 5 only.

This sheet, which contains Figure 5 only, replaces the original drawing sheet that also contained Figure 5 only.

In Figure 5, reference number 35 has been renumbered as reference number 36a and reference number 36 has been renumbered as reference number 36b, in accordance with an amendment to the description of Figure 5 on page 11 of the specification.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet (1)

REMARKS

As of the filing of the present reply, claims 1-24 and 26-49 were pending in the above-identified US Patent Application. Applicant wishes to thank the Examiner for rejoining claims 5, 13-24, and 31-36, which had been previously withdrawn due to an election requirement.

In the Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 1-24 and 26-38, but rejected independent claim 39 and its dependent claims 40-49 under 35 USC §112, second paragraph, and objected to the drawings because Figures 4 and 5 use reference number 35 to identify two different structures.

In the present reply, Applicant has amended the specification, drawings and claims as set forth above. More particularly:

The specification and Figure 5 have been revised to renumber the gear wheel 35 as 36a, and to renumber the gear wheel 36 as 36b, thereby eliminating the second use of reference number 35 in Figure 5. Applicant therefore respectfully requests withdrawal of the objection to the drawings.

Independent claim 39 has been amended to address the Examiner's concern that the wheels 24 do not move "parallel to their axes of rotation" for the purpose of achieving "variable track widths." As amended, the limitation that the wheels move "in opposite directions parallel to their axes of rotation"

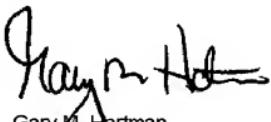
Application No. 10/539,230
Technology Center 3616
Reply dated October 6, 2009
In Response to Office Action dated August 3, 2009

has been canceled, and instead the claim now more accurately describes that the wheels move "toward and away from each other" in order to achieve "variable track widths."

Applicant respectfully believes the above amendment does not present new matter, and respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of remaining claims 1-24 and 26-49.

Should the Examiner have any questions with respect to any matter now of record, Applicant's representative may be reached at (219) 462-4999.

Respectfully submitted,



Gary M. Hartman
Reg. No. 3,898

October 6, 2009
Hartman & Hartman, P.C.
Valparaiso, Indiana 46383
TEL.: (219) 462-4999
FAX: (219) 464-1166

Attachments: Replacement Drawing Sheet (1)